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**From:** Kenneth Roberts <kenr@rust.net>

**To:** A16.A16(rm8775)

**Date:** 11/15/96 10:13pm

**Subject:** International Interexchange Telecommunications VIA the "Internet" Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

I am just writing to voice my disdain and anger over the telephone companies trying to charge for Internet connections. Have they not monopolized enough of our lives already? I already have no choice in who I want to provide my phone service. At least with the Internet, I have some choice. The Internet hurts the Post Office a great deal more than the phone companies, and they aren't crying.

Ken Roberts a Michigan Resident Hoping the FCC has our interests at heart.

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**From:** FCCINFO  
**To:** FCCMAIL.SMTP("slrobin@provide.net")  
**Date:** 11/15/96 3:49pm  
**Subject:** Infor Superhighway -Reply

External Comment to Federal Communications Commission  
Office of General Counsel

Your comment has been forwarded for association with the ACTA Internet Phone Petition (RM No. 8775) please direct comments to rm8775@fcc.gov

>>> Sharon Lutz Robinet <slrobin@provide.net> 11/15/96 06:26pm >>>  
Hello,

It has just come to my attention that the major phone companies are petitioning to charge on-line users a fee to be on-line.

I am writing to stress my opposition to this plan. As we are all aware, the major phone companies are not in any danger of going broke under the present system. This is simply another example of corporate greed.

First, I already pay a subscriber for my service. Second, I pay my local phone company for the phone line and calls I make to access the internet.

That is already 2 seperate fees I am paying for the privilege to be on-line. I take exception to the fact that someone's greed demands that I should pay ANOTHER FEE for the same service!

AT&T may have the luxury of being able to afford all these fees on-line, but I do not. My computer is the major access I have to the outside world. My family is also spread out around the country and the internet is the only way I can afford to keep in touch with them.

I am a taxpayer. I strongly oppose this new measure to make the major phone companies even richer on my meager earnings. Please stop this ridiculous proposal dead in its tracks.

Thank you  
Sharon Lutz Robinet  
Michigan

CC: rm8775

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**From:** Sharon Jenkins  
**To:** FCCMAIL.SMTP("altresc@exis.net")  
**Date:** 11/15/96 4:06pm  
**Subject:** Chairman's Column Comments -Reply

Your comment has been forwarded to be associated with the ACTA Internet Phone Petition (RM No. 8775) Please direct all future comments to rm8775@fcc.gov

>>> <altresc@exis.net> 11/15/96 08:53am >>>  
Terri Allshouse (altresc@exis.net) writes:

I implore you to throw out this petition from phone companies to increase the rates for "line usage" to the smaller internet providers.

I believe that the large phone companies are charging these small internet providers enough money as it is. I don't believe the consumer should pay for the phone companies mistakes! Now that they see how the "smaller guy" is making their bucks, they decide that they want to get involved and get their piece of the pie. What better way to make money than to let the consumer pay for their upgrades. I'm sorry, but that just really annoys me.

These internet providers that we have now have busted their humps to build their businesses, and with this petition, they are going to be driven out of the market. Big guys have big money! I call this whole thing a sabotage! Companies like AT & T and Bell Atlantic should pay for their own laziness and upgrade at their own expense. To quote a local internet provider, "It's the cost of doing business."

I implore the FCC not to get in on this one, no matter how much lobbying is done.

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Server protocol: HTTP/1.0  
Remote host: ppp-3-80.exis.net  
Remote IP address: 205.252.76.80

**CC:** rm8775

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Office of Technology

**From:** John Muehlhausen <muehlhau@sdolls.com>  
**To:** A16.A16(rm8775)  
**Date:** 11/15/96 5:13pm  
**Subject:** No line charge to IPSs!!!!

Phone companies exist for one reason only: to provide point-to-point communication connections.

Whether I am talking to my aunt or downloading my email is none of their business.

I talk to my aunt for hours at a time on the phone, but she is not charged extra for providing this service.

Neither should my ISP be charged....

Sincerely,  
John Muehlhausen

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**From:** FCCINFO  
**To:** FCCMAIL.SMTP("IMNRTST198@aol.com")  
**Date:** 11/15/96 3:35pm  
**Subject:** Major Phone Companies want to charge internet users a fee -Reply

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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>>> <IMNRTST198@aol.com> 11/15/96 02:14pm >>>

It is my understanding that the major Telephone companies have petitioned the Federal Communications Commission for permission to attach or charge Internet users a fee, much like Long Distance charges. I profoundly object to this proposal, because I am already paying fees for use of a second telephone line (for the modem) in my residence, and I pay my provider for the service (my provider pays for the use of the Server phone line). This nonsense sounds like the phone companies want a piece of the action, Which, I perceive, they have had from the very beginning.

Please don't allow the phone companies attach any more fees to the multiple fees I already pay for Internet service, i.e. America Online, Prodigy and Netcom.

Thank you for listening to me,  
Robert B. Cox, IMNRTST198@aol.com  
1071 Fairview St. SE  
Olympia, WA 98501

**CC:** rm8775

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From: FCCINFO  
To: FCCMAIL.SMTP("scott@moriah.com")  
Date: 11/15/96 3:39pm  
Subject: Complaint -Reply

Referral: Department of Justice, Commission  
Office of Secretary

Your comment has been forwarded for association with the ACTA Internet Phone Petition (RM No. 8775) Please direct future comments to rm8775@fcc.gov

>>> Scott Crumpton <scott@moriah.com> 11/15/96 02:44pm >>>  
Dear FCC,

Recently a friend sent me the following tidbit. I certainly hope this isn't true but if it is, I hope the FCC has enough sense to turn them down flat.

> On a news broadcast from Denver, there was an announcement that  
> major phone companies are petitioning the FCC to charge Internet users a  
> fee, much like long distance, to use telephone lines for all the on-line  
> time.

Over the last several years I have had terrible troubles with both our local phone company, US West and our long distance company, MCI. My complaints have solved little and I have been treated very poorly by both companies. My complaint to the PUC solved nothing as well.

With regard to charging users for Internet time, I believe the phone companies already have their finger in the pie. In order for me to use the Internet I have to pay for a telephone line to call my Internet Service Provider (ISP). My ISP in turn pays for a telephone line for which to receive my telephone call. The ISP also contracts with the telephone company to run a T1 Lease line to a major ISP in our region. Now, adding this all up comes to a great deal of money in the pockets of local phone companies. In the last year, local telephone companies have seen a huge jump in the number of installed lines. All this adds up to increased revenues. Now they're asking for more money. Doesn't it seem a bit strange that with all this increased revenue they would be asking for more?

Since the local telephone companies are not giving any additional service other than a telephone line, why should they be allowed to charge for a service which they do not provide?

There is a related issue which I wish to mention. When I first opened my business, US West told me I had to have a business line instead of a residence line. They also explained that the cost was twice as much and that once established, this line could never be changed to a residential line. I asked if I had a choice in the matter and was informed that I was legally obligated to have a business line for my business and not a residential line. I asked what extra benefits I would receive for paying double the price and was told the services were identical.

As a small business owner I find their actions on both of the above issues unacceptable. Since in both matters we do not have a competitor to go to we are thereby forced to comply. I have heard that their monopoly will cease to exist but it does not appear to be happening.

It is at this time that I not only ask you to turn them down on the Internet issue but also to look into their discriminatory policy of overcharging their business customers. Please stop the abuse of the monopoly.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Scott Crumpton

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From: FCCINFO  
To: FCCMAIL.SMTP."msabo@localnet.com"  
Date: 11/15/96 3:47pm  
Subject: Telephone companies charging extra for connecting to the internet -Reply

your comment has been forwarded for association with the ACTA Internet Phone Petition (RM No. 8775) Please direct all future comments to rm8775@fcc.gov

>>> msabo <msabo@localnet.com> 11/15/96 06:04pm >>>  
Good Morning,

I read in the newspaper last night that the telephone companies are asking the FCC permission to charge extra, per minute rate, to connect to the internet.

I am opposed to this proposal because:

As a retired person on a fixed income, I can not afford to pay more for internet service than the \$15. per month that I am now paying. If this proposal is approved the cost of internet service will increase.

There are millions of people in the same situation as I am. For millions of people the internet is their connection to the outside world. Millions like me are house bound and cannot get to the library to research topics which they wish to research.

The internet provides news that the newspapers do not provide. Very often news in the newspapers and on television is slanted toward the views of the editor. I for one want to know both sides of the story. I can get the other side of the story through the internet and by talking to people worldwide on the net. If the telephone companies are allowed to charge by the minute for connections to the internet, the cost will be prohibitive to many people.

The internet is a wonderful learning device. It enables students to gather information worldwide that would not be otherwise available to them. This service should be provided free of charge to schools who have the ability to connect with their own equipment. A per minute charge would make the service unaffordable to school and some colleges, especially state funded one. The internet gives students an opportunity to write to other students in other countries and learn a new language. This is happening now between Slovakia and the United States. A per minute charge by the telephone companies would restrict this valuable learning experience.

The internet is a great learning tool for not only the young people who are in school but seniors like myself who are interested in learning new subjects.

I think the telephone companies are making sufficient money to provide quality service without raising rates and charging a per minute charge for internet access.

The internet provides a way for people around the world to correspond cheaply and rapidly. For the telephone companies to put on a per minute charge for connecting to the internet it would limit the freedom of corresponding via telecommunications.

If the telephone companies are allowed to institute this per minute charge for connecting to the internet, I also think that the practice will severely limit technological advances. The United States needs to increase its technology in order to stay competitive in the current world of technology. By sharing ideas with people around the world, people in The United States are able to learn, keep up with technological advances and come up with new technological ideas.

I trust that the FCC will consider the opinions of the people and not the opinions of the telephone companies. I am sending copies of this letter to some of my friends in hope that they will also express their opinion on this subject to the FCC.

Very truly yours,  
Michael P. Sabo

E-Mail: msabo@cidcorp.com

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